

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

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AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR XF

SUBJ: EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE RE PALESTINIAN STATE

REF: CAIRO 1929

SUMMARY: OPPOSITION OF FEDAYEEN ORGANIZATIONS TO PALESTINIAN STATE IDEA ADVANCED BY EGYPT (AND TUNISIA) HAS CONTINUED GROW OVER PAST WEEK. WELL- INFORMED INDEPENDENT DAILY AN NAHAR REPORTS ON JUNE 28 THAT PLO HAS SENT SPECIAL TWO- MAN MISSION TO DAMASCUS AND CAIRO TO PROTEST IDEA AND EXPLAIN PLO POSITION TO TWO CHIEFS OF STATE. AT SAME TIME, FEDAYEEN ARE SHARPLY CRITICAL OF PROPOSAL IN LOCAL PRESS AND OVER THEIR RADIO.

1. EGYPTIAN EXPLANATION PUBLISHED JUNE 27 AHAM (REFTEL)
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APPEARS FOLLOW DEFENSIVE LINE ORIGINALLY TAKEN BY HAKQZ ISMAEL WITH FATAH' S ABU LUTF (BEIRUT 7322). HOWEVER, THIS SORT OF DEFENSE IS CLEARLY INSUFFICIENT TO ASSUAGE FEDAYEEN WHO HAVE DRIVEN THEMSELVES INTO PUBLIC FURY OVER EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL. SINCE JUNE 20 WHEN WE LAST REPORTED ON FEDAYEEN REACTION, THERE HAVE BEEN SERIES OF PUBLIC PROTESTS AND ARTICLES IN PRESS IN NAME OF VARIOUS FEDAYEEN ORGANIZATIONS AGAINST PALESTINE STATE.

2. PFLP PAPER AL HADAF COMMENTED ON JUNE 23 THAT FEDAYEEN MUST SAY " NO" TO PROPOSED PALESTINE STATE SINCE ONLY TRUE OBJECTIVES FOR FEDAYEEN MUST BE LIBERATION OF WHOLE OF PALESTINE AND CREATION OF " REVOLUTIONARY, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT OVER ALL OF PALESTINE." ANYONE WHO CALLS FOR CREATION OF LESSER PALESTINIAN STATE IS CONSIDERED AS " CONSPIRING AGAINST PALESTINE PEOPLE."

3. PLO DAILY BULLETIN Wafa SAID ON JUNE 24 THAT EVER SINCE PALESTINE REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT WAS CREATED ITS OBJECTIVE HAS BEEN LIBERATION OF ALL PALESTINE AND ESTABLISHMENT DEMOCRATIC STATE THERE, AND THAT THESE GOALS HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY CONFIRMED BY PALESTINE NATIONAL CONGRESS RESES.

4. ON JUNE 26 FBIS REPORTS THAT VOICE OF PALESTINE (CLANDESTINE) (M262140) ATTACKED AL ZAYYAT AND HIS PROPOSAL MADE IN SC AS BEING CONTRARY TO " ARAB STAND" IN IGNORING RIGHTS OF ARAB PEOPLES TO THEIR HOMELAND AND ALSO BEING CONTRARY TO EGYPT' S OWN " UNDERSTANDING OF THE NATURE OF ZIONIST USURPATION AS AN ADVANCE BASE FOR IMPERIALISM." BROADCAST SAYS 1947 SC RES WAS " CATEGORICALLY REJECTED BY PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND ARAB NATION." ON SAME DATE FBIS REPORTS THAT VOICE OF PALESTINE (BAGHDAD) (M262028) TERMED STATEMENTS BY BOTH ZAYYAT AND BOURGUIBA AS " DANGER" AND SAID THAT " A CALL BY ANY ARAB POLITICIAN TO ESTABLISH A PALESTINIAN STATE WHEN ARAB AND INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS ARE BEING EXERTED TO FIND A CAPITULATIONIST SOLUTION WOULD NECESSARILY LEAD TO THE DESTRUCTION OF OUR PEOPLE' S ARMED REVOLUTION." BROADCAST WENT ON TO LINK SUCH CALLS BY ARAB POLITICIANS WITH " KNOWLEDGE THAT CREATION OF THIS STATE HAS BEEN APPROVED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BY IMPERIALISM, AS STATED BY ROGERS AND SISCO."

5. ON JUNE 28 AN NAHAR REPORTS THAT TWO- MAN PLO DELEGATION HAS BEEN FORMED, CONSISTING OF ABU LUTF (NEW HEAD OF PLO POLITICAL COMMITTEE AND MEMBER PLO EXCOM, REPLACING DEAD ABU YUSUF) AND KHALED EL FAHUM (PRESIDENT OF PALESTINE NATIONAL CONGRESS). DELEGATION HAS REPORTEDLY CALLED ON

SARG PRES HAFEZ EL ASSAD AND WILL CALL ON EGYPTIAN PRES SADAT TO EXPLAIN PALESTINIAN POSITION OF INSISTING UPON CREATION OF SINGLE DEMOCRATIC STATE IN ALL OF FORMER PALESTINE MANDATE. ASSAD REPORTEDLY AGREED WITH POSITION OF THIS DEL. ALSO ON JUNE 28, LOCAL PAPER L' ORIENT- LE JOUR CARRIES REPORT THAT ' ARAFAT MET WITH PFLP/ GC LEADERS AND STATED HIS OPPOSITION TO CREATION OF PALESTINIAN STATE AS CALLED FOR BY ZAYYAT. HE SUPPORTED CREATION OF " SINGLE DEMOCRATIC PALESTINIAN STATE IN ENTIRE TERRITORY OF PALESTINE, STATE WITHIN WHCIH JEWS, CHRISTIANS AND MOSLEMS WOULD COEXIST ON EQUAL BASIS."

6. COMMENT: AS WAS CASE LAST SEPT WITH EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE RE PALESTINIAN GOVT IN EXILE, MORE REASON- ABLE AND MODERATE LEADERS AMONG FEDAYEEN (PRIMARILY FATAH) WERE APPARENTLY IN TACIT AGREEMENT BUT HEAT OF CRITICISM FROM MORE EXTREME FEDAYEEN ORGANIZATIONS AND SOME OF RRXRCAL ARAB STATES HAS CAUSED THEM TO COME OUT PUBLICLY AGAINST IDEA.
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